

A TRUE

RELATION

Of the Life and Conversation of *MARGARET MARTEL*, that Murder'd Mistress *PULLYN*.

Together with the

CONFESSION

She made of that

MURDER

In *NEWGATE*, to a French Divine, in Presence of several Witnesses: On the 12th. and 14th. of July last.

17. July. 1697.

THE Father of the Criminal was of *Paris*, and her Mother was of *Tours*, both of them of a considerable Family, who professed the Roman Religion; her Father having committed a Murder was banisht out of *France*, and with his Wife went into *Canada* in *America*, and she was there brought to Bed of the said *Margaret Martel* in the Town of *Quebec*.

When the said *Margaret Martel* was Five years old, she was sent by her Parents into *France*, where she was brought up in the Popish Religion, and when she was of an Age fit to enter into Religion, one of her Aunts made all her endeavours to put her into a Convent; but the said *Margaret Martel* having no Inclination at all to it, her Aunt sent her back again into *America* to her Father, but having no mind for that Countrey, she stole away and came back again into *France*; when her Aunt according to her former Resolution, endeavoured to put her into a Nunnery; but *Margaret Martel* not being able to suffer so much as the thoughts of it, did run away the Second time, and came into *England* with a Son she had.

When

When she was in *England*, she did put her Son Page to my Lord of *Essex*, where he did not long stay, but went afterwards to my Lady *Dondaniel*, who took him for her Page; his Mother *Margaret Martel* being that Lady's Woman at the same time, and behaved her self well enough all the time that she staid in that Noble Family, which was Ten or eleven Months. Then the said Lady going back again into *Scotland*, and *Margaret Martel* having no mind for that Country, both she and her Son went away from the said Lady. My Lord *Arran*, Brother of my Lady *Dondaniel*, took her Son for a Page for himself; and *Margaret Martel* took a Lodging for her self, where she had lived about fourteen Months when she committed this horrid Murder on the Body of *Miss Pullyn*, with whom formerly she had lived, when she came first into *England*. She was committed to *Newgate* the next day after she had committed this barbarous Murder. At her Tryal she pleaded Not Guilty, and did desire a Mixt Jury, one half English Men, and the other Foreigners, which was granted her; and the said Jury having heard all the Evidences against her, found her Guilty of the Murder and Felony. The next day returning she was to receive Sentence, she pleaded a great Belly, but the Jury of Women brought in that she was not with Child, and then the Sentence of Death passed upon her.

She persisted a while after to assert her Innocency, and to say, that she was Not Guilty of those Crimes she was Condemn'd for; but at last a French Divine going to see her in *Newgate*, ask'd her of what Religion she was; she told him, that she would dye in the Romish Religion, in which she had been brought up all her Life, upon which the Minister having told her, That of whatever Religion she was, she ought to Confess her Crime, and that there was no Mercy to be hoped for at the hands of God, unless she did confess her Crimes, and sincerely Repent of them: At last after much Exhortation he prevailed with her, and she Confessed, that she had committed this Bloody Murder; and that she had Premeditated it above three Months, and at last did execute it, having found a fit Opportunity. She first sent the Maid upon an Errand, and then she being alone with the said Mistress *Pullyn*, she first stunn'd her with three Blows of a Hammer upon her Head, and afterwards did cut her Throat with a Razor, that she had prepared for that abominable Use; and did after pull her into a Closet, and took all the things she had a mind to, and afterwards Lockt the Doors, and staid for the Maid in an outward Parlour, and told her, that her Mistress was gone out upon some earnest Business, and had took her Keys along with her. She desired that her Confession might be Publisht and made known to all the World: And seems now to be very Penitent, beseeching Almighty God to have Mercy upon her Soul.

By divers Circumstances it is believed; she had a Mind to Murder the Maid also.